

Please amend the claims as follows.

SUBD1  
C1  
1. (Amended) A hydrotreating catalyst comprising a hydrogenation active metal component supported on a refractory porous carrier, wherein a median pore diameter determined by the nitrogen adsorption method is 8 to 20 nm, a pore volume determined by the nitrogen adsorption method is 0.56 - 1.0 cm<sup>3</sup>/g, and a pore volume of pores having a pore diameter of 50 nm or larger determined by the mercury intrusion porosimetry method is 0.32 - 1.1 cm<sup>3</sup>/g, wherein the pore volume determined by the mercury intrusion porosimetry method is 0.87 cm<sup>3</sup>/g or greater.

SUBD2  
C2  
12. (Amended) A method of producing a hydrotreating catalyst comprising a hydrogenation active metal, comprising the steps of:

kneading a porous starting powder whose main component is  $\gamma$ -alumina wherein the  $\gamma$ -alumina in the porous starting powder is present at 90 weight % or more and wherein the  $\gamma$ -alumina has a pore volume of 0.75 cm<sup>3</sup>/g or greater and a mean particle diameter of 10 to 200  $\mu$ m to prepare a kneaded product; molding and calcining said kneaded product; and supporting the active metal component on the kneaded product or on the kneaded product after calcining.